



CANADIAN COAST GUARD RESCUE BOATS

Small, fast and capable of quick response in sheltered waters, Canadian Coast Guard rescue boats are ideal for their role as primary search and rescue (SAR) vessels.

The CCGC OSPREY, MALLARD and SKUA provide fast assistance to boaters in distress in one of the busiest boating areas of Canada. The vessels primarily operate from Coast Guard stations located in Vancouver, Powell River and at Ganges in the Gulf Islands.

The vessels are lightweight, with a modified deep-V planing type aluminum hull. They are powered by two Mitsubishi direct drive 475 kW diesel engines with twin screws and twin rudders. These factors combine to give CCGC OSPREY, MALLARD and SKUA their high manoeuvrability and high speed performance. The vessels normally cruise at 20 to 22 knots, with a top speed of 26 knots.

The 12.4 metre vessels were designed for a variety of Coast Guard duties, including harbour and confined water patrol. When not tasked to SAR duties, they are also used for servicing aids to navigation, transporting personnel and light freight, carrying out boating safety inspections, and assisting in pollution incidents.

Each of the rescue boats has a complement of three consisting of a coxswain and two crew members. At least one crew member is a rescue specialist, with training in advanced first aid, firefighting and rescue techniques.

For their search and rescue work, each vessel is equipped with breathing apparatus, immersion suits, lifejackets for children and adults, first aid equipment, fire extinguishers, heat packs and blankets. A rescue stretcher, a spine board for back injuries, a salvage pump, a toolbox, a towline and an inflatable boat with a 9.5 hp outboard engine complete the search and rescue equipment. The vessels are also fitted with a fire fighting system that uses sea water pumped through a fire monitor mounted on the bow of each boat.

RESCUE BOATS

Particulars:

Length	12.4 metres
Cruising speed	20 knots
Top speed	26 knots
Power	475 kW
Draft	1.3 metres
Beam	4.12 metres

Standard electronic equipment includes radar, MF, and VHF direction finders, Loran-C, an echo sounder, two VHF-FM radio, one VHF-AM radio, one CB radio and a single side band HF radio.

CCGC OSPREY, MALLARD and SKUA were built at Matsumoto Shipyard in North Vancouver, B.C. Draft at full load is 1.3 metres and their beam is 4.12 metres.

With a fuel capacity of 1,720 litres the rescue boats can run for 12 hours at maximum speed and full load. Each operates in an area of approximately 24 nautical miles from its station, although when needed, the vessels will range farther.

All three vessels provide a timely response to mariners in difficulty, aided by the other vessels in the Canadian Coast Guard fleet and the Coast Guard Marine Auxiliary.

For further information contact:

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Canadian
Coast Guard

Garde côtière
canadienne

Photo: Brian Rempel

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